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**CIA 'Scandal'
Seveals Political
Abuse of Power**By MAJ. GEN. THOMAS A. LANE
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WASHINGTON—It would be a serious disservice to our national security if recent revelations of CIA subsidized left-wing activity were written off. CIA does what Presidents tell it to do, and these events expose a presidential embezzlement of intelligence resources for domestic political use. That kind of corruption in the presidential office should concern every citizen.

There were no such scandals in the Eisenhower Administration. It would then have been unthinkable to convert the resources of the CIA to service of the Eisenhower political fortunes. It was the Kennedy Administration which began subsidizing Left-wing politicians at home and abroad under cover of intelligence activity.

In our troubled world, CIA has been created to detect and counter the hostile acts of our enemies in foreign lands. It comprises a vast power and responsibility which must be exercised scrupulously for the assigned purposes. It is under the direct control of the President. The threat to the Republic in the clandestine use of CIA resources for domestic political advantage was recognized by Congress when it created the Agency.

President Kennedy surrounded himself with Left-wing intellectuals who easily persuaded him that the "non-Communist Left" was the wave of the future in foreign lands. It followed logically that the non-Communist Left in the United States was the proper channel for assistance to its counterparts in foreign lands. Therefore government funds were supplied to new and old Left-wing organizations in this country. That element of the Kennedy power base fattened and prospered.

Non-Interference Rule

The Good Neighbor Policy of Franklin Delano Roosevelt had established a rule of non-interference in the internal affairs of the other American republics. Under pressures of his Left-wing advisers, President Kennedy broke that rule and interfered on behalf of the "non-Communist Left."

The "non-Communist Left" was Marxist-minded, dictator-oriented, hostile to free enterprise. In supporting it, the United States renounced its own political principles, nourished socialism in foreign lands and fostered collectivist regimes incapable of developing productive economies.

This is not the kind of policy at which government officials could arrive through objective appraisal of the U.S. interest in world affairs. It emanated directly from the ideological bias of the Kennedy entourage. It served their ambitions, at home and abroad.

Money flowed to newly-created Left-wing organization in the United States and to their ventures in foreign lands, from CIA through nominally private foundations. Money is power. The Kennedy political base in the United States was strengthened.

No doubt President Kennedy believed he was acting in the best interest of the country. Perhaps it is easy for a President to conclude that his personal interest and the national welfare coincide. That, however, is a poor premise for the country and a poor excuse for the prostitution of the national security.

Committee Failed

The congressional watch dog committee charged with supervision of CIA flunked the test. If this committee has any function at all, it must be to assure that CIA funds are used to serve the national security and are not diverted to partisan political service. The committee should have restrained the President.

The event argues that the Committee should be composed entirely of members of the opposition. It is too easy for a President to win the approval of his own party to anything he wants to do.

The central importance of the CIA revelations is therefore that the vital functions of the Agency have been compromised by abuses of presidential power. Congress must establish more positive controls to prevent such abuses in the future or our whole system of government will be in jeopardy.

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